

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) ~~In a~~ A starch molding composition ~~or molding~~ prepared ~~therefrom~~, wherein comprising optionally modified starch ~~is~~ combined with redispersible powder of at least one polymer additive, ~~the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymer additive~~, a polymer stabilized with protective colloid(s) and/or emulsifier(s), said polymer comprising one or more comonomer units selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of straight-chain and branched alkylcarboxylic acids having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, acrylates and methacrylates of branched and straight-chain alcohols having 1 to 15 carbon atoms, dienes, ~~olefins~~, vinyl aromatics and vinyl halides, ~~said polymers optionally also containing and further comprising~~ from 0.1 to 20.0% by weight, based on the total weight of the polymer, of at least one functional comonomer ~~unit~~ selected from the group consisting of carboxyl-, hydroxyl-, epoxy- and NH-functional~~[[,]]~~ ethylenically unsaturated comonomers, ~~and~~ hydroxyalkyl methacrylates ~~and hydroxyalkyl methacrylates having~~ wherein the alkyl moiety of the hydroxyalkyl group is a C₁- to C₈-alkyl radical, and optionally, olefin comonomer(s), ~~the data in % by weight being based on the total weight of the polymer wherein the redispersible powder of the at least one polymer is provided in an amount of from 5 to 60% by weight based on the total weight of the starch.~~

21. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding~~ prepared ~~therefrom of claim 1, of claim 20~~ wherein polymers comprising the one or more comonomer units are selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of straight-chain or branched carboxylic acids having 1 to 18 carbon atoms ~~are used~~.

22. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding~~ prepared ~~therefrom of claim 20, wherein the at least one functional comonomer includes~~ N-alkylol-functional comonomer units having a C₁- to C₄-alkylol radical ~~are contained~~.

23. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim [[3]] 20, wherein ~~one or more~~ the at least one functional comonomer units derived from is selected from the group consisting of N-methylolacrylamide (NMA), N-methylolmethacrylamide, N-methylolallylcarbamate, C₁- to C₄-alkyl ethers of N-methylolacrylamide, N-methylolmethacrylamide and N-methylolallylcarbamate, and C₁- to C₄-alkyl esters ~~of~~ N-methylolacrylamide, ~~of~~ N-methylolmethacrylamide and ~~of~~ N-methylolallylcarbamate ~~are employed~~.

24. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, wherein the ~~polymers are~~ polymer is vinyl acetate polymer[[s]], vinyl acetate/ethylene copolymer[[s]], vinyl acetate/ethylene/vinyl chloride copolymer[[s]] or vinyl ester/acrylate copolymer[[s]], each further containing said functional comonomer.

25. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, wherein the ~~polymers have~~ polymer has a glass transition temperature of from -30°C to +120°C.

26. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, wherein the ~~amount of~~ protective ~~colloid is~~ colloid(s) are provided in an amount of from 1 to 30% by weight, based on the weight of the polymer.

27. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, wherein the one or more protective colloids colloid(s) are selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohols, polyvinyl acetals, polyvinylpyrrolidones, celluloses, cellulose derivatives, poly(meth)acrylic acid, copolymers of (meth)acrylates with carboxy-functional comonomer units, poly(meth)acrylamide, polyvinylsulfonic acids and copolymers thereof, melamineformaldehydesulfonates, naphthaleneformaldehydesulfonates, styrene/maleic acid copolymers and vinyl ether/maleic acid copolymers, starch and dextrins ~~are contained as the protective colloid~~.

28. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 27, wherein the protective colloids are polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 85 to 94 mol% and a Höppler viscosity, in 4% strength aqueous solution, of from 3 to 15 mPa·s at 20°C according to DIN 53015 ~~are contained as the protective colloid~~.

29. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, wherein the optionally modified starch is ~~used~~ in natural form, as destructured starch, as chemically modified starch, or a mixture thereof.

30. (Currently amended) The starch molding composition ~~or molding prepared therefrom~~ of claim 20, ~~which is an adhesive~~.

31. (Currently amended) A starch molding of claim 20, prepared by a molding process of extrusion, extrusion blow molding, foam extrusion, injection molding, calendering or thermoforming.

32. (Currently amended) The starch molding of claim 31, ~~wherein the starch composition further comprises an additional comprising binder comprising biodegradable polyester as a binder~~.

33. (Currently amended) The starch molding of claim 31, ~~wherein the starch composition further comprises comprising cellulose fractions in the form of wood particles, wood fibers and woodmeal~~.

34. (Currently amended) The starch molding of claim 31, ~~wherein said molding is provided as~~ a rottable molding.

35. (Currently amended) The starch molding of claim 31, ~~which is provided as~~ a rottable film.

36. (Currently amended) A process for producing a starch molding composition of claim 20, comprising:

providing starch, mixing said at least one polymer with said starch, and molding at a temperature of from 70°C to 150°C.

37. (Previously presented) The process of claim 36, wherein water is present prior to molding.

38. (Previously presented) The process of claim 36, wherein a wood product selected from the group consisting of wood particles, wood fibers, wood meal, and mixtures thereof are present prior to molding.

39. (New) A starch molded article comprising optionally modified starch combined with redispersible powder of at least one polymer stabilized with protective colloid(s) and/or emulsifier(s), said polymer comprising one or more comonomer units selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of straight-chain and branched alkylcarboxylic acids having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, acrylates and methacrylates of branched and straight-chain alcohols having 1 to 15 carbon atoms, dienes, vinyl aromatics and vinyl halides, and further comprising from 0.1 to 20.0% by weight, based on the total weight of the polymer, of at least one functional N-methylol comonomer, wherein the redispersible powder of the at least one polymer is provided in an amount of from 5 to 60% by weight based on the total weight of the starch.